GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4344
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2005
OPENING OF NEW TELEPHONE EXCHANGES
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges set up in Maharashtra particularly in Pune district during the Ninth Plan period and the first three years of the Tenth Plan and functioning at present;

(b) whether all the exchanges have been provided with STD/ISD facilities and internet services;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any demands for opening of new telephone exchanges are pending with the Government; and

(e) if so, the present status of such demands?

Answer

THE MINISTER O F STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Sir, the number of telephone exchanges set up by the Government PSUs in the Maharashtra including Pune district during the 9th Five Year Plan and first three years of 10th Five Year Plan and functioning at present, is as follows:

Plan Year Period	Maharashtra Telecom Circle [BSNL (a)]	Pune [also MTNL, included in (a)]	Mumbai
9th 1997-2002	2148	135	85
10th 2002-2005	153	52	29

(b) Yes, Sir. All the exchanges in Maharashtra have been provided with STD/ISD facility and Internet Services.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) There is demand for opening of 32 new telephone exchanges in Maharashtra Telecom Circle of BSNL.

(e) The waiting list is not sufficient to justify opening of new telephone exchanges. Therefore, waiting list is cleared by BSNL by providing phones on WLL technology.